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Clover
Gal Kadou
ry Dynamite
Come and join us
If you don't want us
to send the crazy
rabbits after you!!
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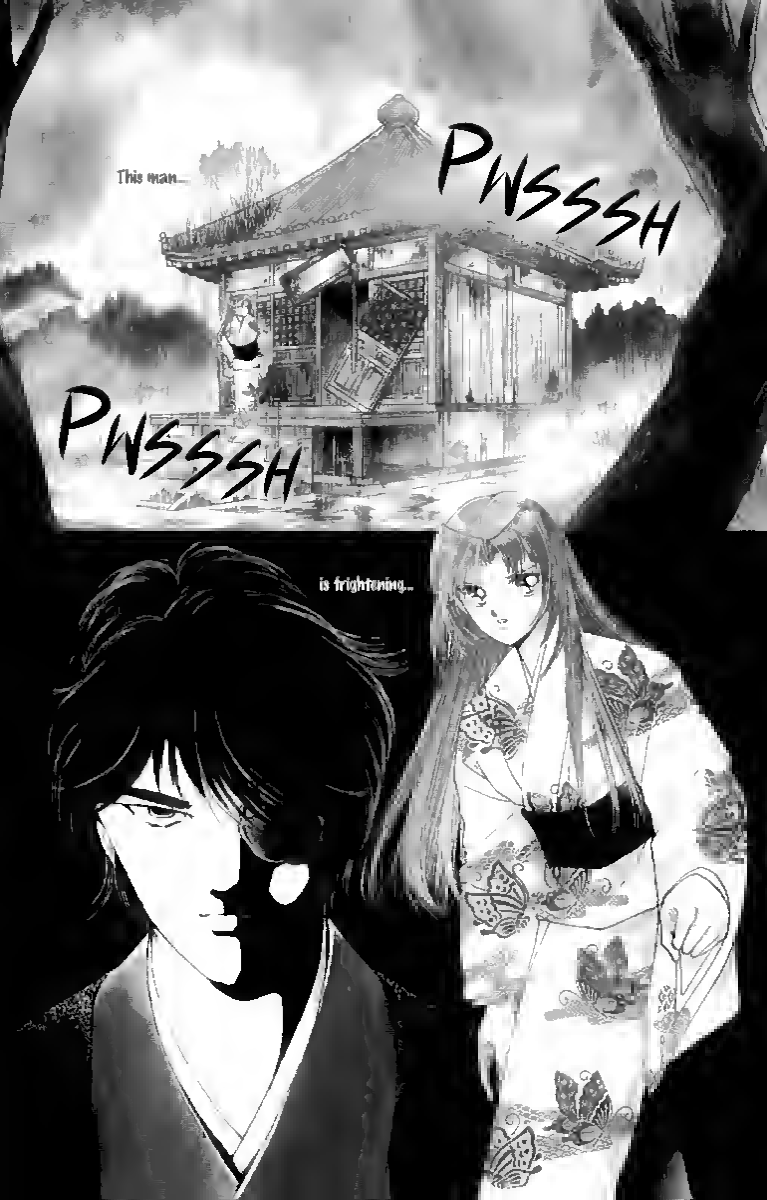
This man...
PWSSSH
PWSSSH
is frightening...

but rather
it's as if a hole has
opened in the midst
of darkness.
It's not
that I sense
an intention
to kill,
I've never
met anyone
like him
What is..
this feeling..?
It's as if this
man is...

'Death' itself—

Furthermore, he is one-eyed.
This visual of a one-eyed man is frequently seen in historical dramas, and he resembles that man'
He looks extremely extremely like him.
YOU WERE SAYING, 'MIYAMOTO FROM KOKURA'
No kidding
I'm actually meeting 'that man' in such a place.
IS THAT MAN EARLIER MIYAMOTO MUSASHI?
This is bad He overheard our conversation.
Did I say too much earlier? I only remember talking about my dreams of death though
WELL... EH...

COULD IT BE THAT YOU ARE HERE TO SEE GOD'S MESSENGER?
WELL... IT SEEMS SO ARE YOU ALSO FROM THE AREA AROUND EDO? YOU HAVE AN EDO ACCENT
Oh I see. He thought that we came from Kokura to Shimabara for an investigation.
DOES MIYAMOTO-DONO HAVE SOME BUSINESS IN SHIMABARA?
WELL... MAYBE...
REALLY ?
SO IT'S NOT EASY TO SEE HIM?
WELL... I GUESS SO
But that said person is here though.
AH...
NO——
I ONLY HEARD ABOUT THE RUMOR.
ARE YOU TOO HERE TO MEET GOD'S MESSENGER?

YOU... WILL NOT LEAVE HIM BE?
WELL... ERM,
IF 'GOD'S MESSENGER' IS HERE, DOES SHOGUN-SAMA INTEND TO KILL HIM?
OF COURSE
In short, aren't you here to kill me?
WELL OF COURSE—
.....
.....
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There..
Something
is there.
I have a
bad feeling...
Ah? What's this?
I don't have
my dagger
with me.
This is bad.
TUGG
A snake!

SFX: STABS
SPATTERS

He's the fastest I've seen in this era with his sword
The speed which he pulled his sword was swift
YOU DID TOO
DID YOU NOTICE IT?
AH!
SFX: THROW
He didn't even look when he threw his sword.
SFX: NAILS
THERE'S NO MORE
YE... YES

IS IT ALRIGHT FOR MIYAMOTO MUSASHI'S WOMAN TO SAY SOMETHING LIKE THIS?
YES... I SHOULDN'T HAVE SAID IT... BUT I'M DEFINITELY SURE ABOUT THIS
YOU ARE... STRONG
YOU ARE PROBABLY THE STRONGEST OF ALL THE PEOPLE I'VE MET
I'M COMING! PLEASE WAIT A MINUTE
Miyamoto.
NATSUKI!! I'VE GOT THE UMBRELLA.
YOU... YOU ARE...

YOU ARE STRONG, BUT YOU DON'T SEEM HAPPY
YOU ARE 'YAGYU JUBEE'-SAN', AREN'T YOU? PLEASE TRY YOUR BEST AT YOUR JOB
WHAT DID YOU SAY? WHAT DID YOU JUST CALL ME?
WELL, LET'S LIVE HAPPIER AND LONGER, YAGYU-SAN.

*note: Yakyu Jubee (1607-1650) was an assassin in the early Edo period who worked for Tokugawa Ieyitsu.

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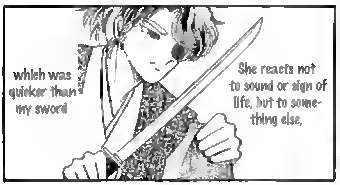
Why does she know about my name--?
That girl.. Her name is...Natsuki.

Moreover...


which was quicker than my sword
She reacts not to sound or sign of life, but to something else.

What was that...?
SEE YOU AROUND

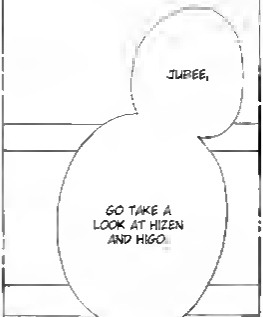
Why did she say such a thing to a complete stranger?
YOU DON'T SEEM HAPPY

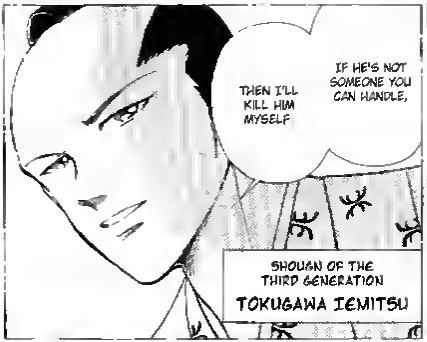
What was that...?

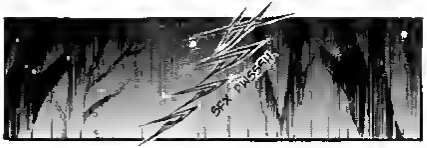
Yagyu Jubee
IS THERE SOMEONE IN THERE? WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR SASH?
NATSUKI?
DID YOU KNOW THAT VIPERS HATE BLUE DYE?
OHH, THERE WAS A SNAKE
VIPERS?!
I'M SORRY THAT I LEFT YOU ALONE BY YOURSELF
IT'S ALRIGHT
If I were to fight that man, would I win?

JUBEE!
JUBEE!
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?!
WHY DID YOU SLIT YOUR OWN FACE?!
WHAT A THING TO DO!

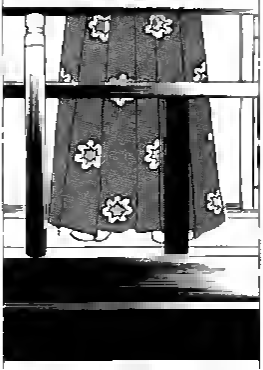
KILL HIM
IF GOD'S MESSENGER IS NOT SOMEONE WORTH CAPTURING


JUBEE,
GO TAKE A LOOK AT HIZEN AND HIGO.


THEN I'LL KILL HIM MYSELF
IF HE'S NOT SOMEONE YOU CAN HANDLE,
SHOGUN OF THE THIRD GENERATION
TOKUGAWA IEMITSU

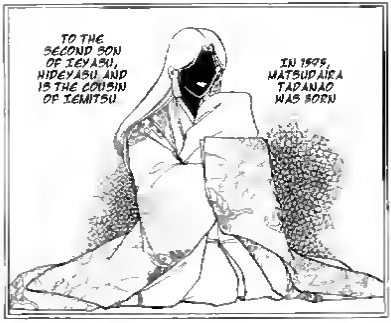

SFX: PASSSH

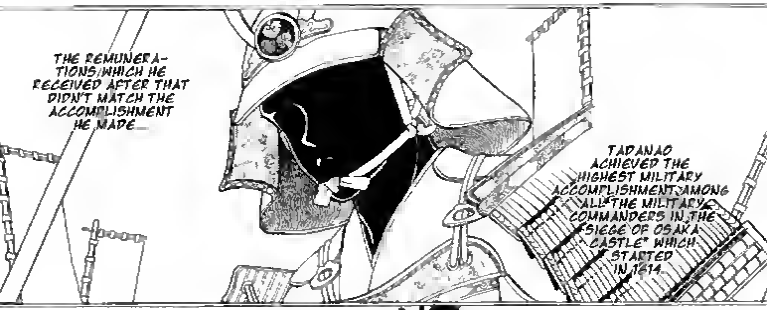
.....



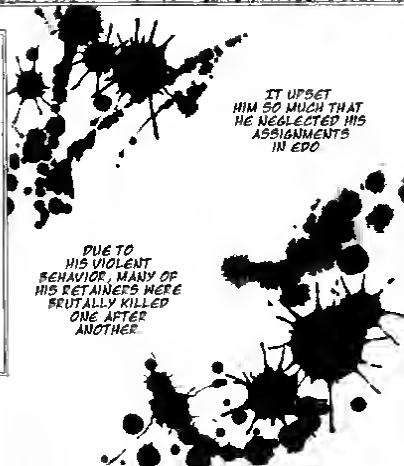
HEY— SO—
WHAT DO WE SAY TO MATSUDAIRA TADANAO WHEN WE MEET HIM?
DO WE SAY "PLEASE BE OUR ALLY"?
UH IT'S IMPRACTICAL TO BE FRANK, ISN'T IT?
TADANAO HAS NO SOLDIERS WHICH HE CAN DEPLOY HAS HE?
YES HE SHOULDN'T HAVE ANY
THERE MAY BE GENERALS WHO WOULD FIGHT WITH US IF THEY WERE TO KNOW THAT TADANAO HAS TAKEN OUR SIDE
BUT THERE IS NO WAY THAT HE'D LEND HIS NAME SO EASILY
HOWEVER, HE'S A WISE LORD IN THIS LOCALITY AND IF HE'S REALLY A KIND-HEARTED MAN HE MAY HEAR US OUT
WE CAN ONLY TAKE OUR CHANCE ON THAT HE'S A KIND-HEARTED PERSON
IF HE'S A RAVING MAD LORD WE'LL JUST LEAVE AT ONCE
RIGHT...
WE ARE TAKING A CHANCE

HE TOOK THE FOURTH DAUGHTER OF SHOGUN, HIDETADA, AS HIS WIFE
IN 1607, HIS FATHER, HIDEYASU DIED AND TADANAO INHERITED HIS PATRIMONY

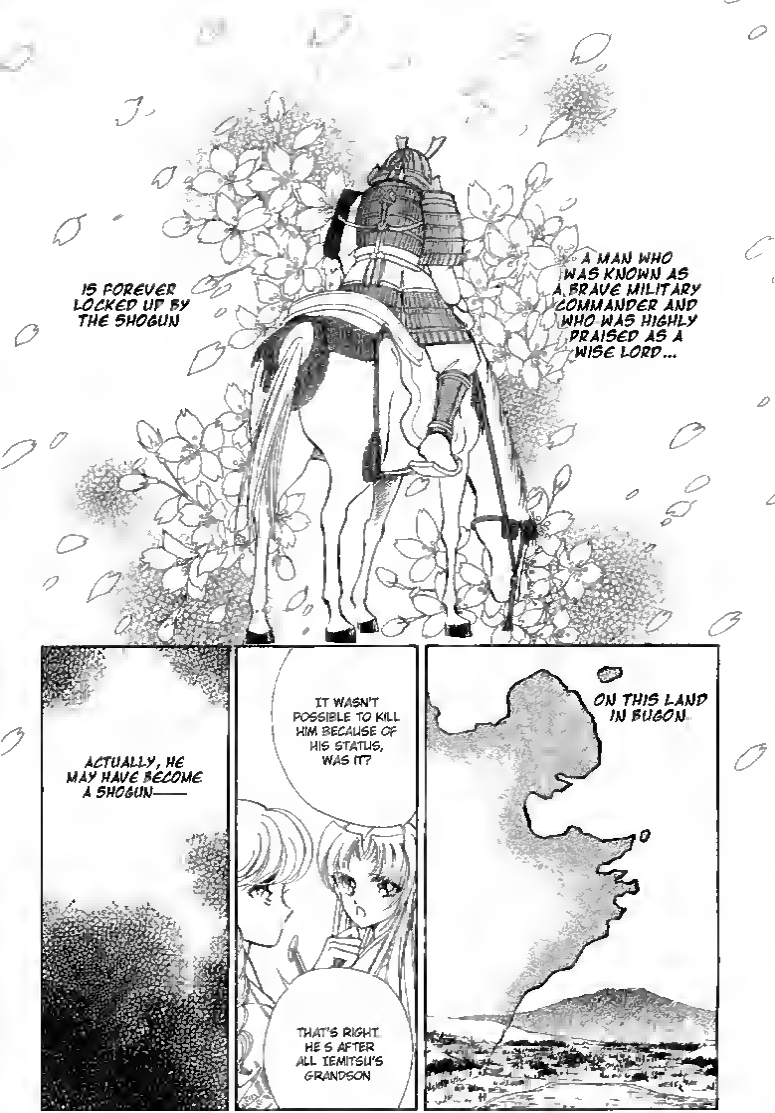



THE REMUNERATIONS WHICH HE RECEIVED AFTER THAT DIDN'T MATCH THE ACCOMPLISHMENT HE MADE...
TADANAO ACHIEVED THE HIGHEST MILITARY ACCOMPLISHMENT AMONG ALL THE MILITARY COMMANDERS IN THE "SIEGE OF OSAKA CASTLE" WHICH STARTED IN 1614

AND RUMOR HAD IT THAT THAT MAN WAS NONE OTHER THAN TADANAO
ON THE OTHER HAND, A MISSIONARY PRIEST, ARMANDO FERNANDEZ, HAD RECORDED THAT HE HAD BAPTIZED A COUSIN OF THE SHOGUN,'


IT UPSET HIM SO MUCH THAT HE NEGLECTED HIS ASSIGNMENTS IN EDO
DUE TO HIS VIOLENT BEHAVIOR, MANY OF HIS RETAINERS WERE BRUTALLY KILLED ONE AFTER ANOTHER...

*note. The Seige of Osaka Castle happened from 1614 and lasted till 1615
It was a battle Tokugawa had against the Toyotomi House whom he saw as a threat to his sovereign.


A MAN WHO WAS KNOWN AS A BRAVE MILITARY COMMANDER AND WHO WAS HIGHLY PRAISED AS A WISE LORD...
IS FOREVER LOCKED UP BY THE SHOGUN
ON THIS LAND IN BUSON
IT WASN'T POSSIBLE TO KILL HIM BECAUSE OF HIS STATUS, WAS IT?
ACTUALLY, HE MAY HAVE BECOME A SHOGUN——
THAT'S RIGHT. HE'S AFTER ALL IEMITSU'S GRANDSON

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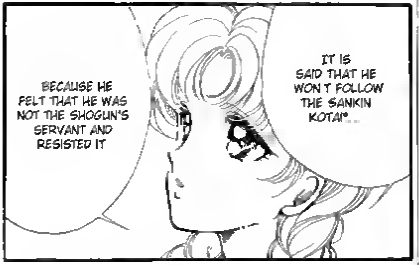
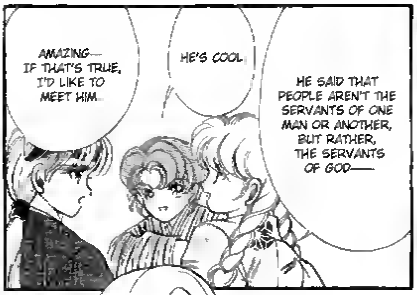
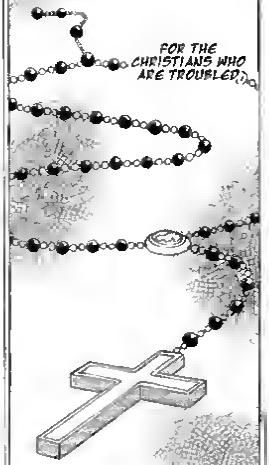



HE SAID THAT PEOPLE AREN'T THE SERVANTS OF ONE MAN OR ANOTHER, BUT RATHER, THE SERVANTS OF GOD——
HE'S COOL
AMAZING— IF THAT'S TRUE, I'D LIKE TO MEET HIM.



*note: Sankin Kotai is a control policy instituted by the Shogun of Edo period on the military commanders under him. The main objective was to weaken them financially by making these commanders living between Edo and their clans in alternate year. The commanders also had to serve the Shogun during their stay in Edo.

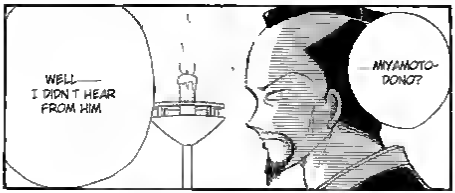
Those guys are kind of mysterious.
THANK YOU FOR WAITING—
That girl from last night...
I HEARD THAT GOD'S MESSENGER HAS APPEARED IN NABESHIMA TOO?
SHH——
HI MISTER, ARE YOU LOOKING FOR LODGING?
OUR INN IS CHEAP—

HE MOST PROBABLY IS—— AND IT'S SAID THAT HE IS WITH THAT MIYAMOTO MUSASHI
Miyamoto?
I HEARD THAT HE SAVED MOTOSHIGE-SAMA'S LIFE
THAT'S NOT ALL. IT SEEMS THAT HE EVEN ENTERED THE CASTLE AND BEAT UP THOSE THIEVES FROM RYUZOJI
IS HE THAT STRONG?
HEY, HEY ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT MIYAMOTO FROM KOKURA?
THERE IS NO WAY THAT HE'D HANG AROUND WITH SOMEONE LIKE THAT!
ISN'T THAT A SMOKE SCREEN?
If that's true——
WELL——
MUSASHI AND MOTOSHIGE-SAMA ARE ACQUAINTED WITH EACH OTHER,
SO THERE'S NO MISTAKE ABOUT IT.

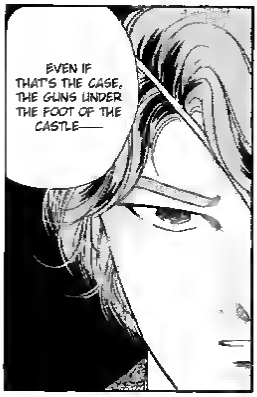
So, is that fellow God's messenger——?
In that group there's Miyamoto three women, and one other man.
HIZEN – SAGA HAN
SAGA CASTLE
NABESHIMA KATSUSHIGE
MY, OH MY, YAGYU-DONO, IT HAS BEEN A LONG TIME
YES, IT HAS BEEN A WHILE, KATSUSHIGE-DONO.
Is that girl a friend of God's messenger——?
IF 'GOD'S MESSENGER' IS REALLY HERE, DO YOU INTEND TO KILL HIM?
If they are really friends where are they heading? Kokura?
What were they doing in Nabeshima——?

MOTOSHIGE IS NOT SERIOUSLY HURT AND HE HAS ALREADY RECOVERED
THE SITUATIONS AROUND SHIMABARA HAVE BEEN UNSTABLE AND I WONDER WHAT IS GOING ON

I WAS CHECKING ON THE SITUATIONS IN HIZEN AND HIGO WHEN I CAME BY THE FOOT OF YOUR CASTLE
AND OVER-HEARD THAT MOTOSHIGE-SAMA IS IN-JURED SO I'D COME TO PAY MY VISIT


WELL—— I DIDN'T HEAR FROM HIM
—MIYAMOTO-DONO?

HAVE YOU ALSO SEEN MIYAMOTO MUSASHI-DONO FROM KOKURA—? HAS HE COME TO VISIT MOTO-SHIGE-DONO WHO IS HURT?


EVEN IF THAT'S THE CASE, THE GUNS UNDER THE FOOT OF THE CASTLE——

SORRY TO HAVE ASKED
IS THAT SO...?
NO, IT'S ALRIGHT

IT SEEMS THAT YOUR PEOPLE ARE WORKING OVERNIGHT.
There are sounds of sword-fighting in the castle.
and the foot of it is bustling with activities.
Hunnn
IS HE PRETENDING THAT HE DOES NOT KNOW?
WE ARE MAKING TRIBUNALS FOR SHOGUNATE'S FAMILY AS USUAL AND NOTHING ELSE
Hahaha
THIS IS WHAT THE NABE-SHIMA HOUSE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN DOING
The Nabeshima House which Motoshige and Mitsushige are contesting for is transforming

Who has changed the Nabeshima House?
What's happening?
Could it be him?
God's messenger——
Maybe he's not someone who I can handle——
IT SEEMS THAT IEMITSU-SAMA IS ALSO CONCERNED ABOUT 'GOD'S MESSENGER'
OOH MOTO-SHIGE MY STOMACH TURNED TO ICE
JUST NOW—— I DIDN'T EXPECT YAGYU JUBEE TO COME——
FATHER, THAT WAS QUITE A SURPRISE

THAT MAN WOULD BE FINE EVEN IF HE MEETS JUBEE, WOULDN'T HE?
IT'S BEST THAT WE KEEP IT DOWN FURTHER
HE EVEN KNOWS THAT WE ARE MAKING GUNS——
UHM...
HE'D BE ALRIGHT HE'S NEVERTHELESS THAT MAN...
Where is he heading?
SFX CLIP CLOP
God's messenger!
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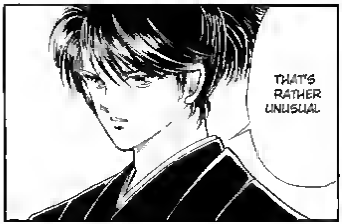
IPPAKU-SAMA, PLEASE ACCEPT THIS
BUNGO TSUMORI
OOOH
THANK YOU, EVERYONE
THANK YOU
IPPAKU-SAMA, AND THIS TOO.
IPPAKU-SAMA, PLEASE ACCEPT THESE FOOD AS WELL.

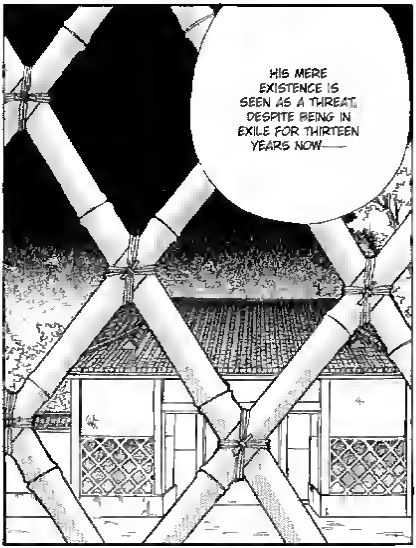
Yes, he's amazing.
YES, THAT'S TRUE. THERE WON'T BE ANYONE WHO IS AS KIND AS HIM.
IPPAKU-SAMA HAS SOME KIND OF ELEGANT SMILE DOESN'T HE?
SHH—H!
IF HE'S OUR LORD—
HUH? HE'S NOT A CHRISTIAN?
THAT IS WHAT MATSU-DAIRA TADANAO IS CALLED WHEN HE BECAME A PRIEST.
SHH—H
DID YOU JUST HEAR THAT?
THEY WERE RAVING ABOUT HIM WITH ADMI-RATION.
HMPH—
THAT'S AFTER ALL A RUMOR IN THE FUTURE
WHY DO THEY CALL HIM IPPAKU-SAMA?

NO MAN CAN EVEN PASS THROUGH
THAT IS INCREDIBLE— THE SECURITY IS TIGHT EVEN AT NIGHT

HEY! STOP THERE! YOU CAN'T PASS THROUGH HERE! TURN BACK!


THAT'S RATHER UNUSUAL

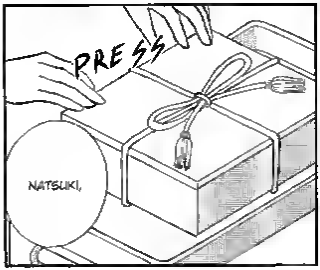
ALRIGHT... IT JUST HAS TO BE THAT.


HIS MERE EXISTENCE IS SEEN AS A THREAT, DESPITE BEING IN EXILE FOR THIRTEEN YEARS NOW——

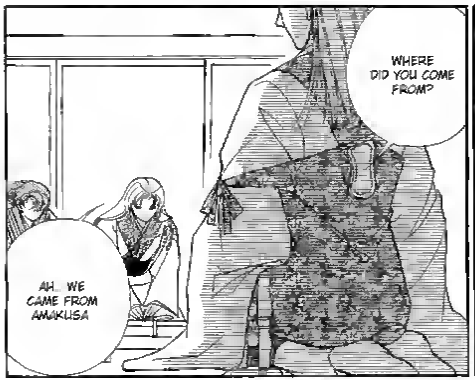
IS THAT GOING TO WORK?
BE CARE-FUL
WE ARE GOING
CLANG
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
A PLATE?
WE ARE HERE TO OFFER A POR-CELAIN PLATE TO IPPAKU-SAMA
OOH... THIS IS SUCH AN EX-CELLENT PIECE OF WORK...

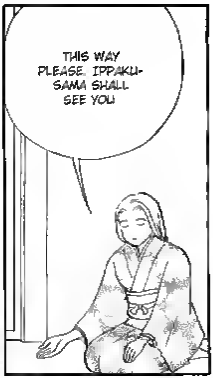
SHH—H
THEY WENT IN.

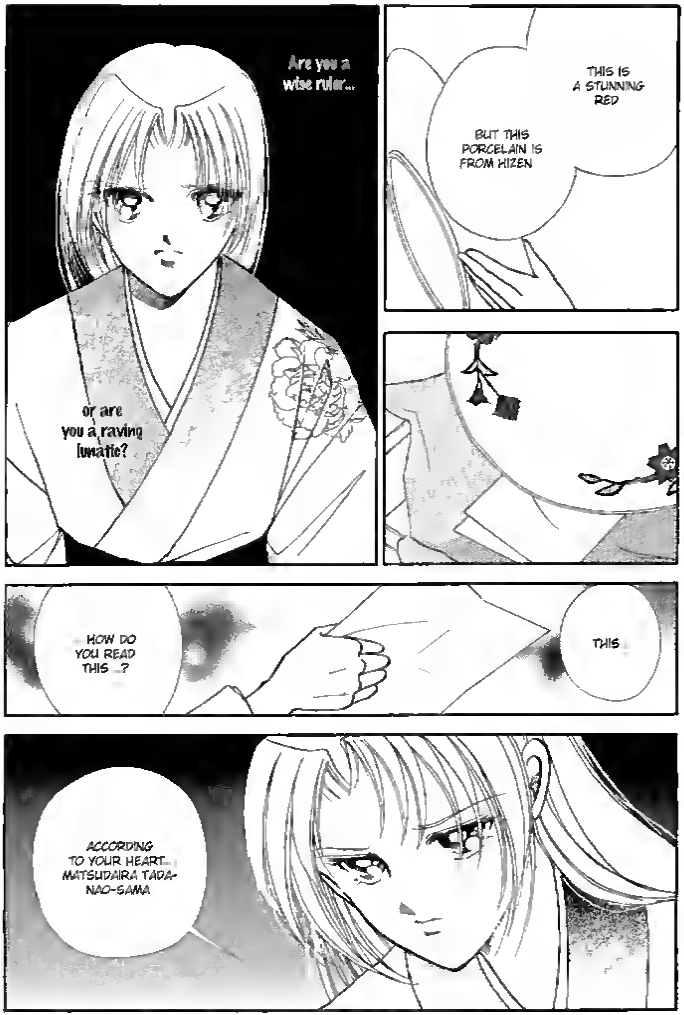
GO AHEAD.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.


PRESS
NATSUKI,

YES. WITH EYES WIDE OPEN.
DID YOU PUT IT IN PROPERLY?


WHERE DID YOU COME FROM?
AH. WE CAME FROM AMAKUSA.


THIS WAY PLEASE. IPPAKU-SAMA SHALL SEE YOU.


Are you a wise ruler...
or are you a raving lunatic?
THIS IS A STUNNING RED
BUT THIS PORCELAIN IS FROM HIZEN
HOW DO YOU READ THIS ...?
THIS
ACCORDING TO YOUR HEART... MATSUDAIRA TADA-NAO-SAMA

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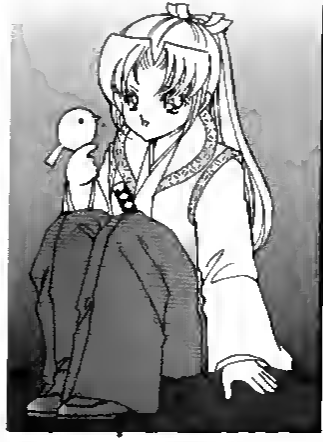

TADANAO WHO INHERITED THE HOUSE OF NABESHIMA AND BECAME THE HEAD OF THE CLAN, DIED WHEN HE WAS ONLY 23 YEARS OLD. HIS SON MITSUSHIGE WAS HOWEVER SEEMED TO BE INVOLVED IN THE GHOST CAT INCIDENT AND THAT'S THE BOY CHARACTER IN THIS BOOK. THAT CHILD KILLED THE PEOPLE OF THE RYUZOUJI RACE WHEN HE GREW UP AND THE GRUDGE SEEMED TO DEVELOP INTO THE GHOST CAT DISTURBANCE. IF MITSUSHIGE WAS A GOOD LORD, SUCH COMMOTION WOULD NOT HAVE OCCURRED. THE PRIDE OF NABESHIMA WAS ITS WEAPON WHICH WAS THRIVING DURING THE LAST DAYS OF TOKUGAWA SHOGUNATE. THEIR GUNS WERE REALLY—— INCREDIBLE

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
EVIL FLOWERS!
3 years
together
with you!

3RD
I'M SO HAPPY YOU ARE RELEASING ALL MY FAVORITE PROJECTS TODAY
THERE'S BEEN A PROBLEM
THE STAFF ALL DIED FROM EXHAUSTION. THERE WILL BE NO RELEASE
SURPRISED?
SORRY FOR NOT TELLING YOU EARLIER.